

Sample Education Plan

Associate in Arts (AA)

Area of Focus: Media and Communication Arts



Please note that the AA degree is not awarded in a specific major or focus area.

This is a SAMPLE plan to help guide you toward courses relevant to your interests while you are deciding on a transfer institution. Suggested courses are based on requirements of several four-year institutions and the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) Media and Communication Arts Panel. Please note that requirements vary among four-year colleges and universities. It is important to check early with your transfer school and academic advisor to ensure you are taking appropriate courses and meeting all requirements. You will find transfer guides for specific universities on MCC's website: www.mchenry.edu/transfer.

AA Degree Requirements: Area of Focus—Media and Communication Arts

Students are encouraged to complete an AA degree prior to transfer. A minimum of 60 credits is required for transfer as a junior into a bachelor's degree journalism program.

Please refer to MCC's AA degree planning sheet in the current academic catalog for specific degree requirements and course options.

Suggested Courses

GENERAL EDUCATION CORE CURRICULUM	CREDITS	OTHER COURSE REQUIREMENTS	CREDITS
Communications		Diversity and Multicultural Studies	
^ENG 151 Composition I	3	Two 3-credit hour courses are required. Courses that fulfill this requirement may be used to fulfill credits in Humanities/ Fine Arts, Social/Behavioral Sciences, or Electives. See current catalog for complete list of Diversity & Multicultural Studies course options and how they apply toward degree requirements.	
^ENG 152 Composition II	3		
SPE 151 Introduction to Speech	3		
Humanities and Fine Arts		Electives (approximately 23 credits, will depend on credit value of your course selections)	
IAI Humanities	3	Recommended Courses (select with your advisor):	
IAI Fine Arts (Recommended—JRN 180 Intro to Film)	3	Focus Area Radio/TV or Adv/Public Relations	
IAI Humanities or Fine Arts	3	JRN 152 Intro to Mass Communication	3
Social and Behavioral Sciences		JRN 155 Media News Writing	3
IAI Social & Behavioral Science	3	JRN 165 Intro to Broadcasting	3
(Recommended—PLT 151 US Government)		Focus Area Journalism/News Editorial/ Photojournalism	
IAI Social & Behavioral Science	3	JRN 152 Intro to Mass Communication	3
(Recommended—SOC 151 Intro to Sociology)		JRN 155 Media News Writing	3
IAI Social & Behavioral Science (Recommended—	3	JRN 170 Media Feature Writing	3
^ECO 252 Intro to Macroeconomics)		Focus Area Multi Media	
^Physical and Life Sciences		ANI 100 2D Animation	3
(7 credits, 1 lab course)		ENG 108 Writing for the Web	3
IAI Physical Science	3-4	WEB 105 Web Fundamentals	3
IAI Life Science	3-4	Focus Area Communication Studies	
Mathematics		SPE 155 Interpersonal Communication	3
^IAI Mathematics	3	SPE 251 Intercultural Communication	3
		SPE 265 Fundamentals of Oral Interpretation	3
		Foreign Language	0-16
		Total Credits Required for AA Degree	60
		Many 4-year schools will accept a maximum of 60-64 transfer credits.	

NOTE:

- Your transfer school may require at least 1 year of foreign language. High school foreign language may or may not count. It is always recommended that the foreign language requirement be completed prior to transfer.
- The AA degree includes the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC) package. Meet with an MCC academic advisor to learn more about the IAI GECC and transfer benefits.

For more information:
advising@mchenry.edu or (815) 479-7565
www.mchenry.edu/advising



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Transfer Notes

Bachelor's degree programs in Media and Communication Arts encompass five major program areas: Advertising/Public Relations, Radio/TV/Film, Journalism/News Editorial/Photojournalism, Multimedia, and Communication Studies.

- An Advertising/Public Relations program combines ethical practices with creative strategies in an integrated marketing environment to apply current media practices to organizational mass communication needs.
- The Radio/TV program combines production, announcing, writing, and video/audio editing techniques for broadcasting as they relate to the practical and theoretical aspects of the field.
- Programs in Journalism/News Editorial/Photojournalism provide the opportunity to combine a solid liberal arts background with pre-professional training in areas such as broadcast journalism, photojournalism, online journalism, and magazine journalism. Undergraduate programs prepare students for careers as writers, reporters, editors or producers for magazines, radio, television, newspapers, online news media, and other media outlets.
- A Multimedia program uses digital computer-based technology to write and edit text, design graphics, create animations, and incorporate sound with still and moving images that are integrated in digital format for a multimedia presentation.
- The Communication Studies program seeks to provide students with a comprehensive knowledge of the nature of human communication, the symbol systems by which it functions, the environments in which it occurs, its media, and its effects. It focuses on communication interaction between individuals and the impact each has on the other.

Students wanting to major in an area of Media and Communication Arts may have a choice of earning a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree, depending on the school they attend. Admission and specific course requirements vary among four-year institutions. Some schools require additional math and science coursework for the BS degree. Competency through the second, third, or fourth semester of a single foreign language is required for the BA degree in some schools and for all majors in the College of Arts and Sciences at other schools. Ask about the language requirement of the schools you are considering, and complete the required foreign language courses before transfer. In some cases, two years of foreign language study in high school will substitute for two semesters in college.

Transfer Schools

Many schools offer majors in an area of Media and Communication Arts. Following are a sample of Illinois public and private four-year institutions that offer majors in this area:

- Augustana College
- Aurora University
- Benedictine University
- Bradley University
- Chicago State University
- Columbia College Chicago
- Concordia University
- DePaul University
- Dominican University
- Eastern Illinois University
- Elmhurst College
- Governors State University
- Illinois State University
- Lake Forest College
- Loyola University
- Millikin University
- Monmouth College
- North Central College
- North Park
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Northern Illinois University
- Olivet Nazarene University
- Rockford University
- Roosevelt University
- Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville
- Trinity International University
- University of Illinois Chicago
- University of Illinois Springfield
- University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign
- Western Illinois University

Transfer Resources

www.itransfer.org—iTransfer is a portal for transfer assistance in the state of Illinois. Find information about the Illinois Articulation Initiative and MyCreditsTransfer (Transferology—a nationwide transfer tool).

www.mchenry.edu/transfer—Find transfer guides, course equivalencies, partnership agreements, and other transfer resources.

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